

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, February 21, 1879, with transcript

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL TO MABEL (Hubbard)BELL Boston, Feb. 21st, 1879. My darling May:

I have just torn up one letter to you in which I allowed myself to use some disheartening words — as if I were discouraged. I have seen nearly everyone and explained evently my feeling that simple justice to Mr. Hubbard and a sound policy should make them request him to withdraw his resignation. I saw Mr. Forbes this morning and he requested me to talk over the matter with Mr. Blake and that then they would have a meeting with some other of the monied men today. I thought that Blake and Forbes seemed to be willing to accede to my proposition but I did not like some hints let fall by Mr. Forbes as to advisability of compromising with Western Union — I entend to make a point of this on Monday that Mr. Hubbard's retention of President is my guarantee that no arrangement will be made with the Western Union until my reputation has been cleared.

A meeting of the monied men was held today — and instead of remaining for only half an hour or so they staid for more than two hours discussing matters, and when they came out they all looked so grave and quiet that my spirits sank down below zero — and I commenced a regular blue letter to you — when Mr. Blake came in a moment or two ago and said that he had been at the meeting — and that everything looked promising — that there was no personal feeling against Mr. Hubbard among the monied men — and that if I declined the Presidency — then they thought Mr. Hubbard was the best man — so long as he had no power over the finances of the Company. The meeting was informal and of course we cannot tell what will happen yet, but I am encouraged. I go home with Mr. Blake to make his acquaintance — and tomorrow night I go to Salem — and intend to keep by Mr. Sanders for upon his co-operation depends 2 everything. I intend to say a

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good word for Sanders on Monday and to propose Mr. Hubbard as President and Sanders and Forbes as Vice-Presidents.

I also intend to propose that some of the shares in the Treasury be presented to Prof. Peirce of Providence, for distribution among the "Providence Experimenters." In haste.

Your loving, Alec. P. S. You poor darling. I am so sorry to have prevented you from going to Mr. Pollok's and Senator Blaine's. Alec.